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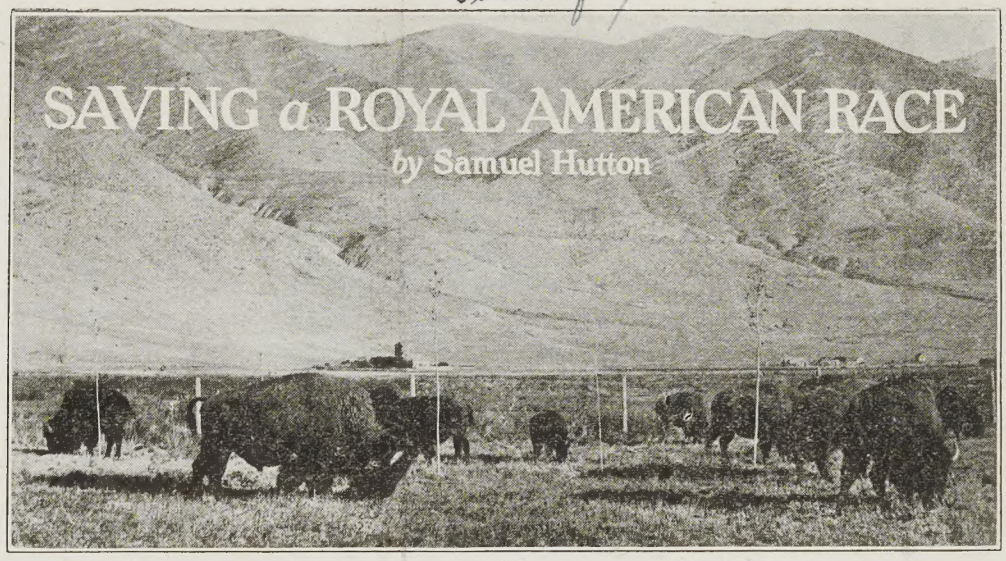

SAVING a ROYAL AMERICAN RACE

by Samuel Hutton

FOR many years Indians in the northern regions of Canada have declared that at least one herd of wild buffaloes was thriving in the District of Mackenzie. White nomads coming casually into contact with civilization told similar stories. Sometimes details were added. The white men usually contended that the animals were not true buffalo, but a species to which they gave the name of wood-buffalo. Generally, however, their information as to the numbers and condition of the animals, and the particular territory in which they roamed, was nebulous. The settled communities on the fringe of the lonely lands placed little credence in these tales. Civilized Canada indeed was convinced that the herd of wild buffaloes in the north was a myth—a variation of Indian legends that had grown with the passing years since the last of the vast herds of buffaloes that once thrived on the prairie lands had disappeared.

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Geronimo, the Fierce Apache Chief, Skinning the Last Buffalo Killed in Oklahoma (1912)

The myth has been dissolved. A real herd of wild buffaloes has been discovered, numbered with as much exactness as possible, their condition and habits noted and the extent of their range approximately measured. F. H. Kitto, of the Natural Resources Intelligence Branch of the Department of the Interior, spent the greater part of last summer in acquiring this information in the buffalo territory. He was fortunate enough to be able to secure several snapshots of these buffaloes, though most of his attempts to secure close-up pictures were frustrated by the rapidity with which the animals fled whenever Mr. Kitto or any of the guides got within reasonable distance of them.

The range of

W. J. McIntyre Vulcan

a mecca for sportsmen, licensed and controlled as in the known hunting grounds of the older provinces where deer and moose are found.

Outside of this known herd of wild buffaloes Canada has the largest buffalo herd in the world. This has its home in Buffalo Park, Wainwright, Alberta, where there are now some five thousand head. This herd has grown from some six hundred buffaloes bought by the government of Canada in 1908 from a rancher in Montana at two hundred fifty dollars per head, and landed safely in their present quarters after many trying marches. At the time of the purchase the idea in mind was the preservation of an animal so intimately associated with the history of North America. Now commercial and economic possibilities are opening up that seemingly have no bounds. It is believed that the cross-breeding with domestic cattle and the subsequent successful experiments resulting in the product of the hybrids known as cattalo, may be of immense value in providing food in the future. Cattalo thrive as well in the open ranges of the West as in the Buffalo Park. In the latter, though the buffaloes live under conditions as nearly approximating nature as can be, the young and the weaklings are looked after whenever unusually severe winter weather threatens their food supply.

Further experiments in cross-breeding have of late produced what is said to be a still better animal from the food point of view. The name of trialia has been given to it—some call it buffalo cow. This animal has over two hundred pounds of extra meat as compared with the cattalo or the buffalo itself. This meat is mostly in the shoulder, is tender, and of full rich flavor.

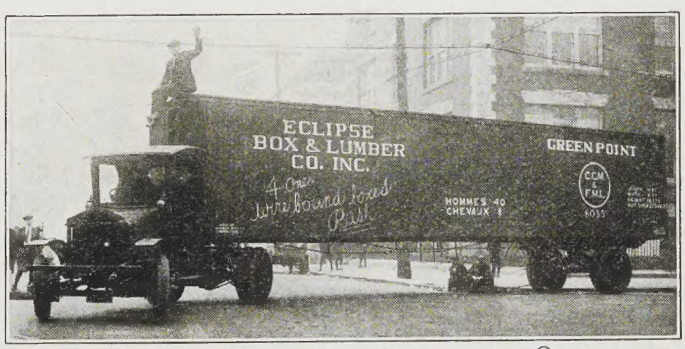
At the present time the government has one thousand buffalo bulls which could be disposed of from the Wainwright herd without endangering the prospects of the rest of the herd. It is believed that ranchers and cattle dealers will buy many of these for cross-breeding with the range cattle. It is also possible that a number of the more sturdy, with a selected number of cows, will be turned loose in lands not likely to be demanded for settlement for some time. That is not yet decided. What is certain is that for the bulls that it could dispense with the government could repay the cost of buying the original herd, while at any time it chooses the sale of skins and heads of a few hundred buffaloes would bring in a handsome sum.

Within the past few years blankets and cloth of beautiful texture have been made from buffalo wool mixed with twenty-five per cent of sheep's wool. That opens up another prospective avenue of revenue.

Auto Truck Freight Car

THE railroads' inability to handle the freight traffic in this country because of lack of funds to build and maintain adequate equipment has resulted in innumerable firms resorting to motor truck service almost exclusively for the delivery of their products.

A manufacturing company of Long Island, New York, has taken a step further by designing an automobile truck with a freight car body, by means of which much larger loads can be transported by motor. Similar models have been made that can be switched from auto truck wheels to standard railroad wheels. The vehicle shown is for road use only.



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Auto Truck with Freight Car Body Used by Manufacturing Firm to Transport Its Products by Motor

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These Former Monarchs of the Plains Photographed at Close Range in Their Wild State

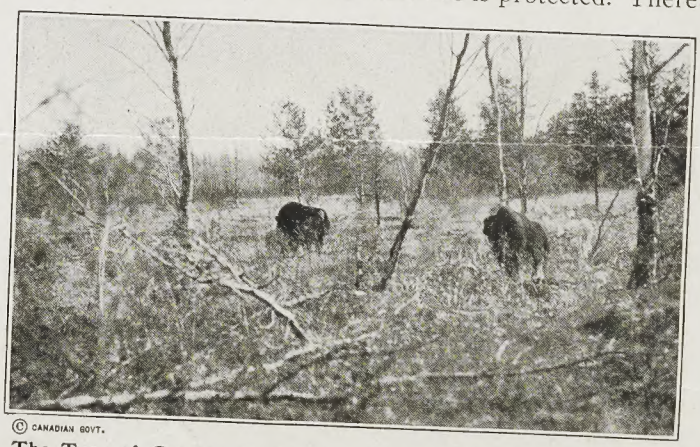
the wild buffalo, according to Mr. Kitto's preliminary report, centers in about latitude 60° North and longitude 112° West. The territory lies in the northern part of the Province of Alberta and the southern part of the District of Mackenzie.

Mr. Kitto estimates the herd with which he came into contact as numbering one thousand head. This figure he reached after the most careful calculation extending over a period of some weeks. Eliminations were made from day to day according to the locality covered, so as to avoid the possibility of counting the same groups more than once. He found no buffalo in the more northerly part of the range—of which he was only able to cover a small section—but he is not now so strongly inclined as formerly to disregard the assertions of the Indians that there is another herd of one thousand head there.

Throughout the whole area of the range covered by his party the land is nearly all wooded. Black spruce and tamarack prevail in the lowlands. Many stretches of level land of a park-like nature are found, with grassy meadows interspersed with light woods of poplar, birch and jackpine. Occasionally there are hills of sand covered with jackpine. Some open stretches of prairie in the vicinity of the Peace River vary the general outlines given.

In the summer season the buffaloes scatter through the woods, feeding in the marshes and meadows and frequenting the sand hills for protection against the flies. During the winter they gather in big bands for protection against the wolves and stick pretty closely to the grassy meadows. They seem to find no difficulty in getting through the snow to their feed.

Throughout Canada there is a good deal of sympathy with the suggestion made to the government by Mr. Kitto that the whole range in which the buffaloes were found should be declared a game preserve, under all the regulations as to hunting that pertain in other territories where wild life is protected. There is little chance of the land being opened to settlement on any worth-while scale for many years to come. Those who approve of the suggestion argue that in a comparatively short time the area may become



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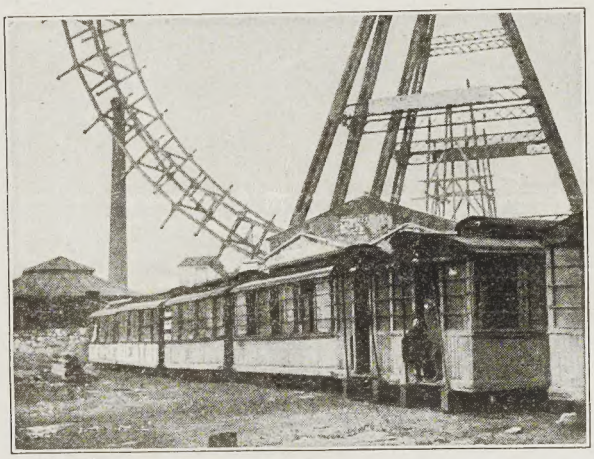
The Type of Country in the Far Northwest, Where New Herds of Buffaloes Have Been Found

Use Passenger Cars of Ferris Wheel for Homes

THE famous Ferris wheel in Paris is now being dismantled. The large passenger cars will be used as temporary shelter to help solve the scarcity of houses in various parts of France.



KAUEL & HERBERT

Passenger Cars of Ferris Wheel Being Used as Temporary Shelter for Homeless in Paris

This world-famed structure was originally built for use at the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893. A number of years later it was moved to Paris, France, where it since has been a fixture in an amusement park.

Cover Large Area in Soil Surveys

ONE-THIRD of continental United States has been covered to date by detailed or reconnaissance soil surveys by the Bureau of Soils, United States Department of Agriculture. The total area covered by detailed survey amounts to 547,733 square miles, or about 350,549,120 acres, and that covered by reconnaissance survey is 516,286 square miles, or 330,423,040 acres.

Soil surveys are wirely consulted for contemplated purchases of land, selection of crops, and planting of gardens.

Production of Fuller's Earth Shows Big Increase

ORIGINALLY the peculiar kind of clay called "fuller's earth" was employed exclusively for the "fulling" of cloth. This form of clay was not known to be present in the soil in the United States until 1893, when a deposit was found at Quincy, Florida.

Since then it has been discovered in Georgia, Arkansas, Texas, California, Massachusetts, South Carolina and Colorado.

From sixty-nine hundred tons in 1895, the production has increased to about forty thousand annually. Its principal use at present is for clarifying mineral and vegetable oils.

For mineral oil, the earth is ground fine and run into long cylinders, through which the crude oil is allowed to percolate slowly. For vegetable oil the earth is mixed with the boiling oil, which is then filtered off through bags.

Electric Package Tying Machine

Electric Machine Ties Bundles

THE slow and laborious process of tying packages by hand is doomed to discard by the introduction of a modern electric machine which performs this service accurately at high speed.

The device, which is portable, ties each package in the same way, wrapping the string around tightly every time, and fastening it with a knotting mechanism which insures a non-slip knot that prevents the twine from becoming loose. One wrapping of twine each way eliminates any waste of string, where several wrappings were ordinarily made in the hand process. The mechanism can be adjusted to tie bundles of various sizes, and is adaptable for use in numerous industries.